

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY EUR/EE:CBROWN/JL

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R 012308Z JUL 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OREP (ALBERT, CARL), RO

SUBJECT: CODEL ALBERT

REF: BUCHAREST 2902

1. IN APPROACHING ROMANIAN AUTHORITIES ON CODEL ALBERT,
YOU MAY CITE VISIT AS RESPONSE TO GIOSAN'S EARLIER
INVITATION. SPEAKER ALBERT ACCEPTED THIS INVITATION BY
LETTER DATED JUNE 14, WHICH WAS TRANSMITTED THROUGH
ROMANIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON.

2. SPEAKER ALBERT IS ABSENT FROM WASHINGTON FOR NEXT
WEEK OR SO, AND WE CANNOT RAISE PROPOSAL IN PARAGRAPH 2
REFTEL WITH HIM DIRECTLY. BASED ON SPEAKER'S PREVIOUS
PRACTICE, HOWEVER, HIS STAFF IS SURE THAT HE WOULD PREFER
TO KEEP GROUP TOGETHER THROUGHOUT VISIT. WE SUGGEST
THEREFORE THAT EMBASSY RECOMMEND ONE OF THE ITINERARIES
PROPOSED IN REFTEL, WITH UNDERSTANDING THAT ONE OR TWO
CODEL MEMBERS MAY GET SPEAKER'S APPROVAL TO SPLIT OFF
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TO PURSUE INTERESTS IN OTHER PARTS OF THE COUNTRY. AS

SOON AS WE HAVE CONFIRMATION OF CODEL PARTICIPANTS, WE WILL SEND LIST WITH ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON SUBJECTS OF SPECIFIC INTEREST.

3. WE HOPE EMBASSY CAN AVOID ANY HAGGLING OVER ROLE AND OBLIGATIONS OF HOST. IT IS PRECISELY BECAUSE OF PROBLEMS OF RECIPROCITY THAT WE WISH TO KEEP ROMANIAN EXPENSES TO THE MINIMUM. AS EMBASSY KNOWS, U.S. CONGRESS IS NOT ORGANIZED TO SERVE AS HOST FOR VISITS OF PARLIAMENTARIANS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES. USUAL PRACTICE HAS BEEN FOR INDIVIDUAL LEADERS OF CONGRESS TO GREET BRIEFLY INDIVIDUAL PARLIAMENTARIANS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES, AND ONLY RARELY HAS CONGRESSIONAL HOSPITALITY GONE BEYOND THIS. WHILE CODEL APPRECIATES HOSPITALITY OF ROMANIANS, IT DOES NOT WISH TO INCUR OBLIGATIONS WHICH IT CANNOT RECIPROcate. SPEAKER'S OFFICE ALSO TELLS US THAT THERE MAY BE LEGAL PROBLEMS CONNECTED WITH ACCEPTANCE OF HOSPITALITY AND GIFTS OF MORE THAN NOMINAL VALUE.

4. INTERNATIONAL ITINERARY OF CODEL REMAINS AS OUTLINED IN STATE 130511.

INGERSOLL

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